

for Blair's commitment and my best wishes for his retirement. I wish him and his family the very best in their new endeavors.

RECOGNIZING ERIC S. GROOMS
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF
EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Eric S. Grooms, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Eric has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Eric has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Eric S. Grooms for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

EDS AWARENESS MONTH

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise awareness to and pay tribute to those affected by Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, EDS.

The problems present in EDS include changes in the physical properties of skin, joints, blood vessels, and other tissues such as ligaments and tendons. EDS is a rare disorder, occurring in approximately 1 in 5,000 people; however, 90 percent of individuals who have EDS remain undiagnosed. The various forms of EDS are characterized by abnormalities in the chemical structure of the body's connective tissues resulting in some degree of joint looseness, fragile small blood vessels, and abnormal scar formation and wound healing. Some forms of EDS can present problems with the spine, including curved spine; the eyes; and weak internal organs, including the uterus, intestines, and large blood vessels.

There is no cure for this condition, although researchers believe that specific research on EDS would not only benefit EDS patients with diagnostic tools and treatment, but would also benefit understanding of other connective tissue related diseases. Scientific researchers have made some significant advances in recent years in trying to understand this condition, but many scientific challenges still remain.

Mr. Speaker, the Ehlers-Danlos National Foundation, a national nonprofit membership organization dedicated to controlling the effects of EDS as well as creating a support system for those diagnosed with this condition and their families, has designated May EDS Awareness Month. The goal of this effort is to educate the public about the nature and effects of EDS.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to become familiar with this disease and join us in recognizing the importance of an accurate diagnosis of EDS to ensure appropriate treatment and educational outreach. EDS Awareness Month gives all of us an opportunity to learn more about the condition. It will help us better understand the impact that EDS can have on people living with the disorder, as well as recognize the importance of early diagnosis and proper treatment. In short, we must enhance public awareness of this very misunderstood and often misdiagnosed disease.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4297,
TAX INCREASE PREVENTION
AND RECONCILIATION ACT OF
2005

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4297. This legislation would give big benefits to millionaires, billionaires and giant corporations while the average American suffers under record high energy costs and again gets stuck with the bill.

Mr. Speaker, we should not increase the burden on our children and our grandchildren with this administration's record deficits just to make another 70 billion dollar gift that will line the pockets of the wealthiest few. Let's not extend tax rates that would encourage oil company executives to continue gouging record profits from every hard working American.

Mr. Speaker, we need to rethink our priorities. Instead of another 70 billion dollars for the super rich, why not provide health care for millions of children, provide housing for the neglected victims of Katrina or improve the education of the countless students that this administration has left so far behind? Is this Republican Congress so busy returning profits to the wealthy, that it has forgotten the families who have done all the hard work?

I encourage members to remember the American families that are the back bone of our nation and our economy and vote "no" on this bill.

RECOGNIZING JACOB R. HARRINGTON
FOR ACHIEVING THE
RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob R. Harrington, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 180, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob R. Harrington for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING JAN STOHR UPON HER
RETIREMENT

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 11, 2006

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to a distinguished woman who has tirelessly served the Sacramento area for many years. Jan Stohr will soon be retiring from the Nonprofit Resource Center as its Executive Director. As her colleagues, friends and family gather to celebrate her retirement, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting this outstanding citizen of Sacramento.

When she steps down, Jan will leave behind a long list of accomplishments and a career devoted to helping others. She has been the driving force behind the creation of multiple Sacramento based nonprofits that continue to thrive decades after their founding.

In 1976, as a member of the Junior League, she initiated the establishment of the Child Abuse Prevention Council of Sacramento, CAPC, and a few years later was instrumental in the development of the Sacramento Region Community Foundation. Due to the successful efforts and outreach of CAPC, thousands of children have been spared from being victims of abuse; and since its founding, the Sacramento Region Community Foundation has given out 44 million dollars in grants.

The cornerstone of Jan's work in Sacramento, however, has been her longtime commitment to the Nonprofit Resource Center. The Center began in 1988 with Jan's help and has since blossomed into the place where nonprofits can turn to for assistance in writing grant proposals, securing funds and developing solid management practices. She has served as the Center's Executive Director since its establishment in 1988. Located in downtown Sacramento, the center now assists nonprofits throughout northern California.

Additionally, Jan has given her time by serving on the board of directors for numerous non-profits in the Sacramento area, including the Community Services Planning Council, the United Way, and the Mountain Valley Chapter of the American Leadership Forum. She also seen by many as a leader in the nonprofit field and has been active with the California Association of Non profits' Nonprofit Policy Council, UC Davis's Community Development Graduate Group and the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Through her work, Jan has been awarded with numerous recognitions, including the Association of Fundraising Professionals' Outstanding Fundraising Executive Award and the United Way's Distinguished Service Award. Many more awards and accolades will certainly follow as she transitions into retirement.

Mr. Speaker, as Jan Stohr enters retirement, I am truly honored to pay tribute to one of my dear friends and one of Sacramento's most honorable citizens. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing Jan and her husband Phil continued success and happiness in all of their future endeavors.